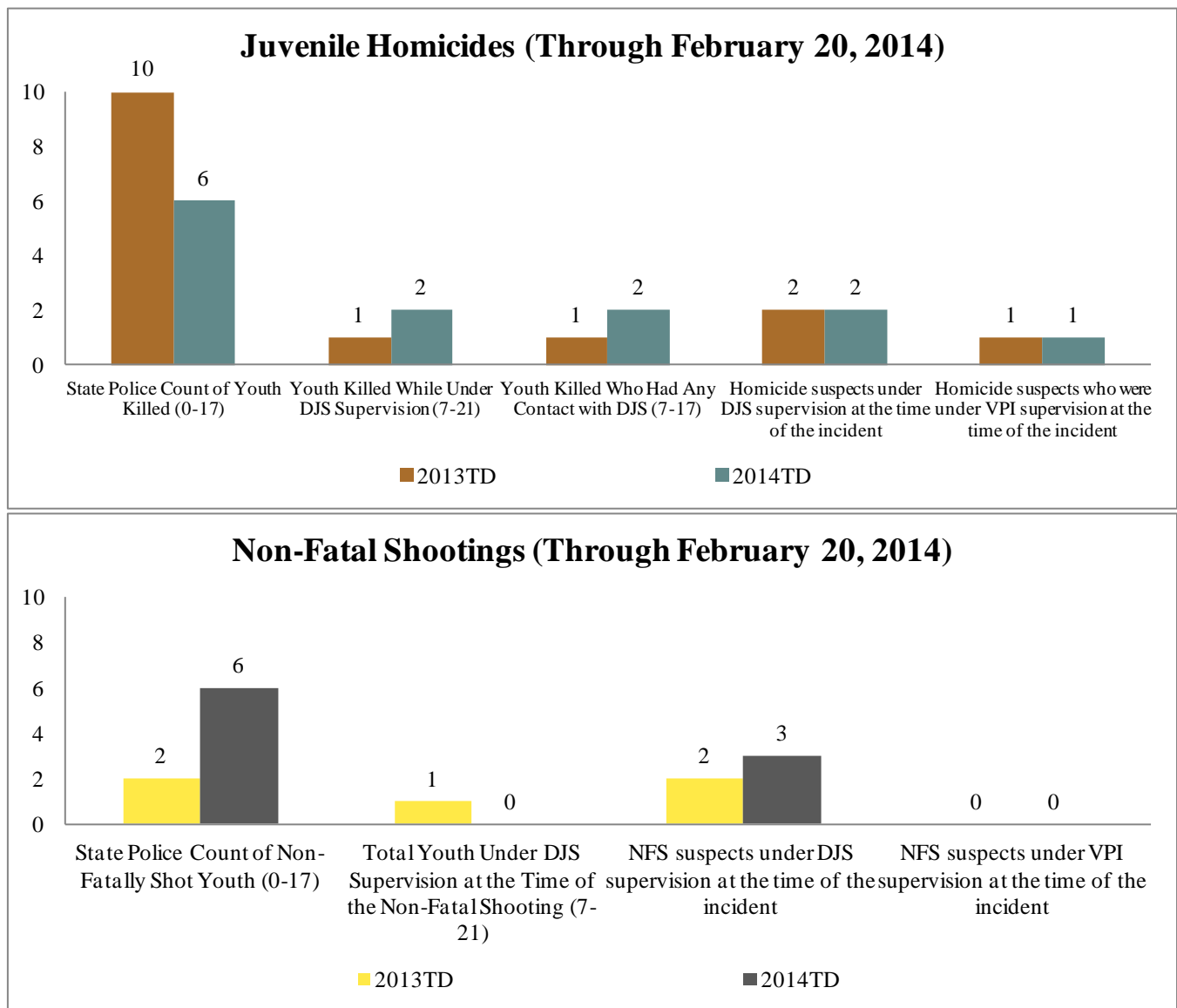


## Meeting Summary

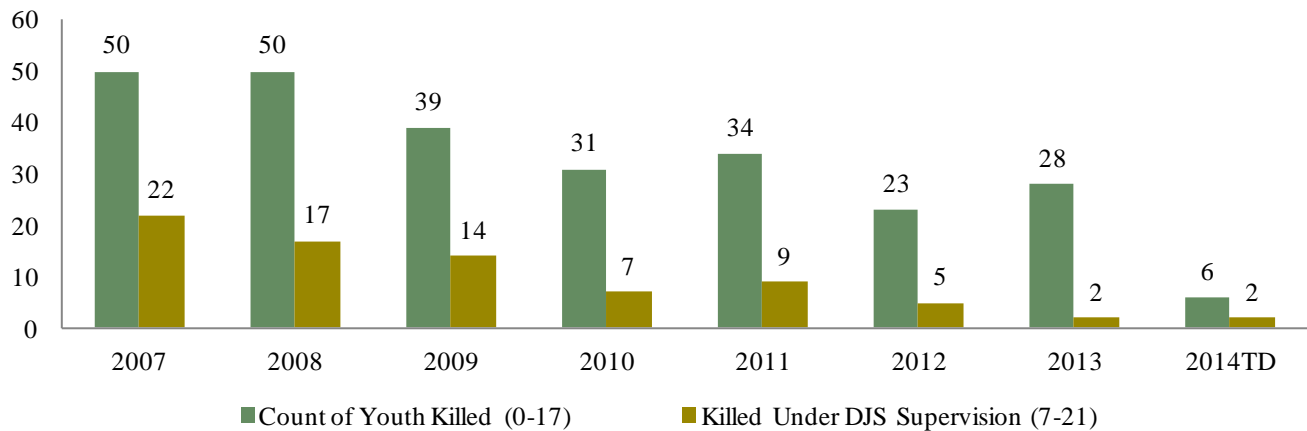
Following is a summary of the issues discussed at the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) Stat meeting on March 4, 2014. Analysis provided by StateStat.

### **Strategic Goal: Reduce Violent Crime against Women and Children by 25% by the End of 2018**

- **Year-to-Date Homicides and Non-Fatal Shootings.** Point in time data showing overall juvenile homicides statewide indicates that there has been a 40 percent decrease through February 20<sup>th</sup> of this year. However, youth killed while under DJS supervision and youth killed who had any contact with DJS have increased. In addition, overall non-fatal shootings have increased from two to six from 2013 to 2014, at this point in time, and there has been an increase, by one, of non-fatal shooting suspects, who were under supervision at the time of the incident.



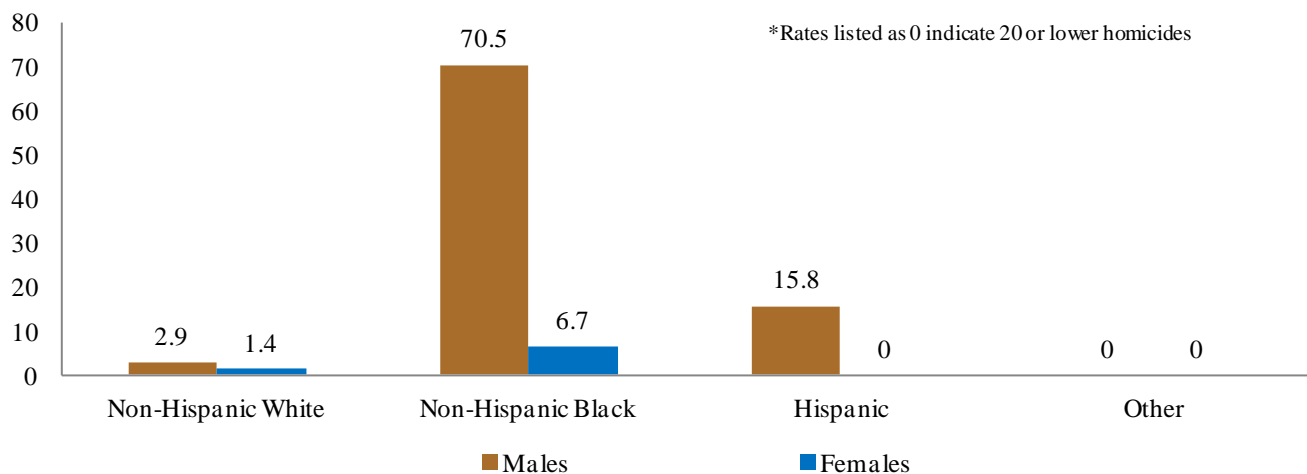
### Juvenile Homicides, Ages 0-17 and Youth killed Under DJS Supervision, Ages 7-21, CY 2007-2014TD



- Racial Discrepancies among Juvenile Homicide Victims.** According to data provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), from 2006-2010, the rate of homicides per 100,000 individuals of non-hispanic black males, was significantly higher than all other racial groups in Maryland.

In the DJS system, for each decision point, as you move further into the system, DJS reports that there are more African American youth involved. When you look at the different localities though, different decision points show varying degrees of disparity. The DJS data resource guide does a rate of index at the decision point. African American youth are four times more likely to be arrested but the numbers decrease at intake due to the decisions made. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has mandated that the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) addresses minority contact. The big five counties are tracked by GOCCP and they do a relative rate index for the OJJDP every year. Progress has been slow going, though, however the numbers are moving in the right direction in some areas. DJS' strategy has been rolled into the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives (JDAI) act.

### Homicide Rates per 100,000, Ages 10-24, 2006-2010\*



## **18-Month Plan**

- At the request of the Governor's Office, each state agency involved in the Stat process was asked to provide summaries of milestones they plan to hit in the next 18 months. StateStat will be tracking progress on these milestones during all Stat meetings.
- **The Implementation of Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standards.** The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by the U.S. Congress in 2003 to create national safety standards that would help prevent the sexual abuse of individuals in the custody of correctional facilities in the U.S. PREA applies to both adult and juvenile inmates. DJS has refined its procedures to incorporate the PREA Standards into the day-to-day operations at the facilities.

DJS has indicated to StateStat during previous meetings that staffing ratios at the Youth Centers need to be addressed so that PREA standards can be fully met. As a follow-up item, DJS was asked to provide an update on actions that will be taken to address the current staffing shortages at the Youth Centers.

DJS reports that they are using overtime and population management to address the staffing issues. The Youth Centers currently operate with a staffing ratio of 1:10, which is accomplished through the use of overtime. PREA regulations require compliance with a staffing ratio of 1:8 by October 1, 2017. There are six vacancies at the Youth Centers at this time but they should be filled soon.

- **Expanding the Under-13 Statewide Initiative.** The Under-13 Initiative was the result of the collaboration between DJS and the StateStat team after analysis of juvenile homicide data in Baltimore City from 2007 to 2011 determined that of the 115 juvenile victims of homicide who were known to DJS; nearly 40 percent had some prior contact with DJS at age 12 or younger. Consequently, DJS embarked on a mission to collaborate with state agencies and the Baltimore City School System to develop the first Under-13 Initiative in Maryland. The Under-13 Initiative became operational in Baltimore City on May 1, 2013. The initiative brings together state and local agencies that have a vested interest in the well-being of Baltimore City youth, including the school system, in order to offer services to the youth and his/her family.

As a follow-up item, DJS was asked to provide an update on the program including current enrollment numbers, services that are being provided to youth and their respective families, as well as information on outcome measures. DJS reports that to date, there have been 46 youth referrals to the Under-13 Initiative in Baltimore City. Youth and families are eligible to receive services such as Family Preservation Intervention through the local Department of Social Services (DSS), wrap-around services facilitated by the care management entity (i.e. Maryland Choices), and special education and student support services through Baltimore City Schools. Through this service array, youth and families can receive help with issues like payment of delinquent utility bills, access to mental health and/or substance abuse services or the creation of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for the youth. Additionally, Big Brothers Big Sisters has recently partnered with the Under-13 Initiative to provide mentoring services. In terms of outcome measures, DJS indicates that outcomes are measured by whether the referred youth has subsequent contact with DJS after receiving services. According to the most recent data, one youth, who was receiving services through the Under-13 Initiative has re-offended. DJS also reports that the Under-13 Initiative does not have any specific, allocated funding whereas DJS, DSS, and Baltimore City Schools are all using existing resources to provide services and support.

## Legislation

- **Update on 2014 Juvenile Justice Legislation.** The table below highlights impending legislation in reference to juvenile justice in Maryland.

<b>Juvenile Justice Legislation (2014)</b>		
<b>Bill#</b>	<b>Bill</b>	<b>Info</b>
<b>SB 485</b>	Prohibition Against Continued Detention	Prohibits the use of secure detention for children 11 years old and younger
<b>SB 515</b>	Transfer of Cases to Juvenile Court	Repeals a provision that prohibits a court exercising criminal jurisdiction in a case involving a youth to transfer the
<b>SB 116</b>	Committed Facilities – Repeal of Termination	Repeals the termination of specified provisions of law authorizing the Department of Juvenile Services to transfer a child committed to residential placement from a specified facility to another facility under specified circumstances
<b>SB 122</b>	Detention – Community Detention Violation Hearings	Requires an intake officer who authorized detention of a child for a violation of community detention to immediately file a petition to authorize continued detention; requiring that a hearing on a specified petition be held no later than the next court day unless extended under specified circumstances; and requiring notice of the hearing be given to specified persons
<b>HB1294/SB757</b>	Transfer Determinations – Confinement in Juvenile Facilities	Requires a court exercising adult criminal jurisdiction in a case involving a youth to order the youth to be held in a secure juvenile facility pending jurisdictional determination except under specified circumstances
<b>HB342/SB476</b>	Seeking Medical Assistance for Another Who Ingested Alcohol or Drugs-Minors	Provides that a minor who, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for another person who is experiencing a medical emergency after ingesting alcohol or drugs may not be charged with or prosecuted for drug possession or underage possession of alcohol, be detained on an outstanding warrant for another nonviolent crime under specified circumstances, or be required to provide any personal identifying information for any purpose other than assisting in the medical treatment of the person experiencing a medical emergency

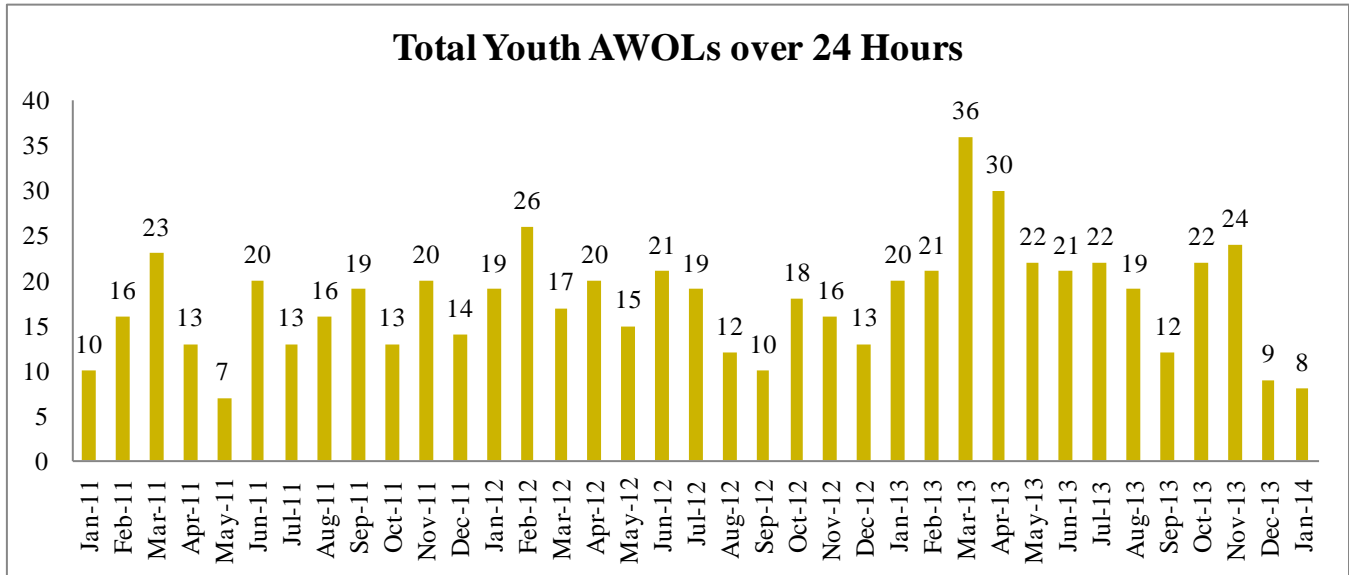
## Placements

- **MSDE IT Needs Needed for Cheltenham.** In January of this year, staff from StateStat made a visit to the Cheltenham Youth Facility in Cheltenham, Maryland. During this visit, the Principal of the school within the placement indicated that computers in the computer application classroom were not online at that time. DJS was asked to follow-up with MSDE to see what can be done to connect all of the computers in the aforementioned classroom.

DJS reports that MSDE is currently in the process of linking all school sites to the main server located at MSDE. Cheltenham's transition to the main server is slated to be completed by the end of February. MSDE's Computer Network Specialist will coordinate this transition with designated DJS IT department staff. Based upon the needs of the project, DJS will be contacted to assist with the technical aspects of the

transition and computer imaging set-ups within the school building. MSDE can then work with the identified DJS IT staff to effectively transition CYF over the next several weeks.

- **AWOL Incidents.** The total number of AWOLs over 24 hours declined significantly in December 2013 and January 2014. These are the lowest totals since May 2011. DJS reports that the weather has contributed to this decline.



- **Girls Services.** In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly required that DJS provide the report on Services and Programs for Females was required by Senate Bill 787 / House Bill 511 (Chapters 290 and 291, 2011 Laws of Maryland) enacted during the Maryland General Assembly's 2011 session. This legislation directed DJS to report to the General Assembly on the manner in which the Department would use existing resources to ensure that females receive services that are substantially equivalent to those offered to males in fiscal 2013 and subsequent years. DJS has identified that a lack of staff secure treatment facilities for girls are what have been lacking but none have been approved at this time.
- **Detention and Committed Populations.** Data shows that state operated detention facilities and state operated committed facilities have been below capacity for several months. The Department needs to be commended for their work placing youth quickly into long term programs and allowing for staff at various facilities to provide better services for youth due to the fact that staff to youth ratios are being driven down.

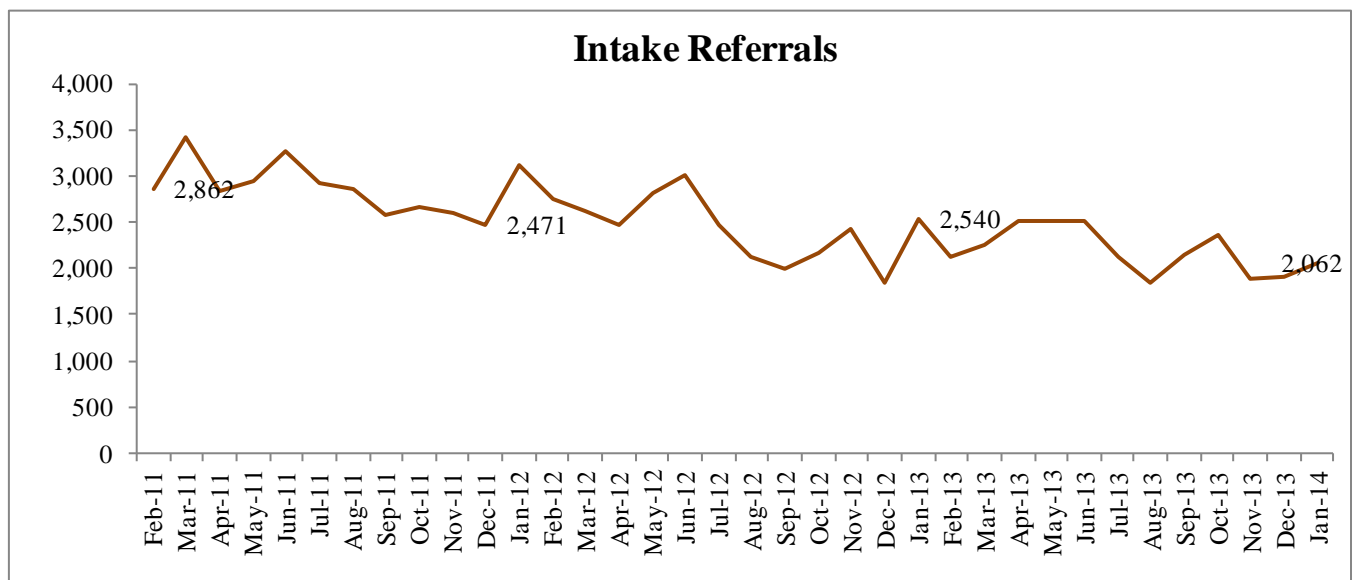


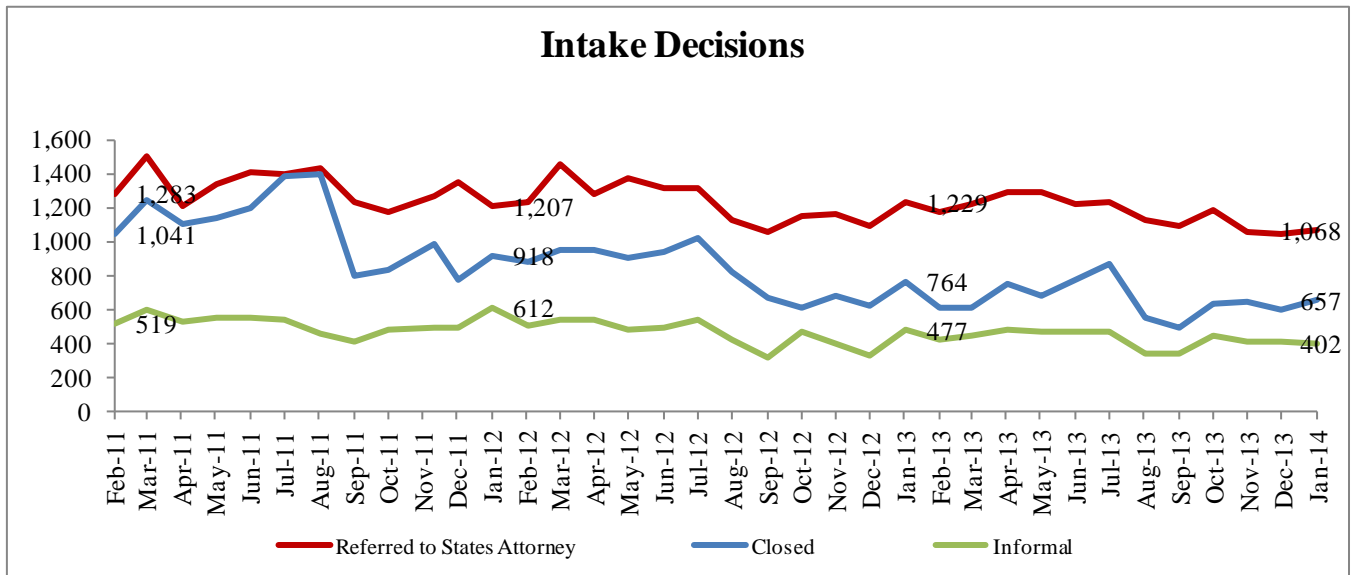
## Supervision

- Juvenile Justice Monitoring Unit (JJMU) 2013 Annual Report.** On February 18, 2014, The JJMU released their 2013 Annual Report. It should be noted that this recent report is quite favorable towards the efforts DJS has made to decrease incidents at their various facilities as well as acknowledging DJS' success in reducing the numbers of youth in secure detention and in reducing time committed youth spent waiting to begin a program. However, the report states that more steps need to be taken by DJS to "ensure the delivery of meaningful, individualized and evidence-based treatment services to youth in non-restrictive settings." These include what is listed in the table below. DJS, in reference to the second finding reports that they are working on a deep end utilization study with the Casey foundation. The study will be done by July of this year. The data analysis consists of how did kids get to where they are and it is on an individual basis.

JJMU Recommendations	
Action:	Summary:
Enhance staff training, pay, retirement benefits and education qualifications	All DJS staff should be treatment specialists. To that end, DJS entry level training should be founded on an evidence-based, trauma-informed model of care. Baseline pay and retirement benefits should be equal to state employees in other comparable state agencies. DJS staff should also have access to educational benefits to further professionalize the workforce.
Commission a treatment utilization study	In order to right size the system and ensure that only youth who cannot be served in the community are in out-of-home placements, the Department should examine which youth are in residential facilities and why. The results of the study should inform the distribution of treatment resources across the state. Ineffective facilities should be phased out of the system.
Provide effective treatment services to youth at home	Youth who can be served at home should have access to individualized and evidence-based services in small, non-restrictive (non-residential) settings located within their communities. Intensive and individualized mental health services should be offered through the state and local human services agencies in community-based settings.
Increase the quality of services provided in remaining residential facilities	All residential facilities should offer evidence-based treatment programs in small, non-restrictive settings that provide trauma-informed services to youth and staff. All of the components of the programs, including staff training and crisis intervention techniques, should be in accord with the ultimate goal of providing individualized, evidence-based and trauma-informed treatment.

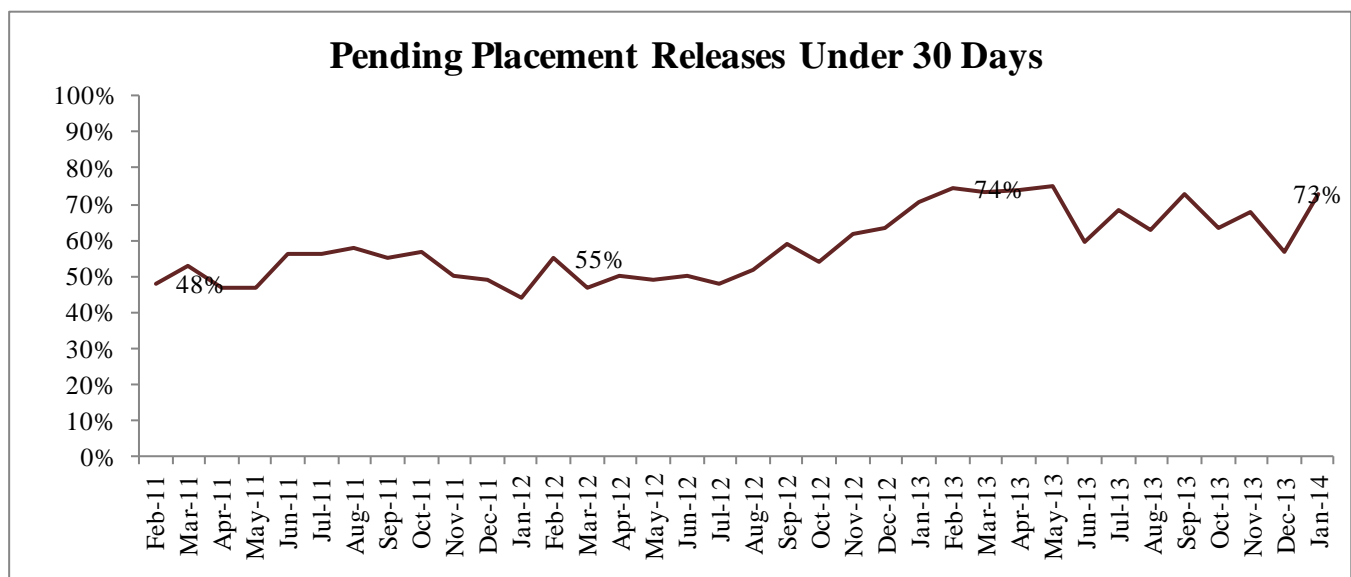
- Intake Referrals and Intake Decisions.** Data indicates that the number of youth coming into the DJS system has declined since 2011. Fewer youth are being arrested statewide and this follows national trends. Concurrently, DJS has been closing fewer cases at Intake while the number of youth being referred to the State's Attorney's Office for formal action has stayed relatively high.





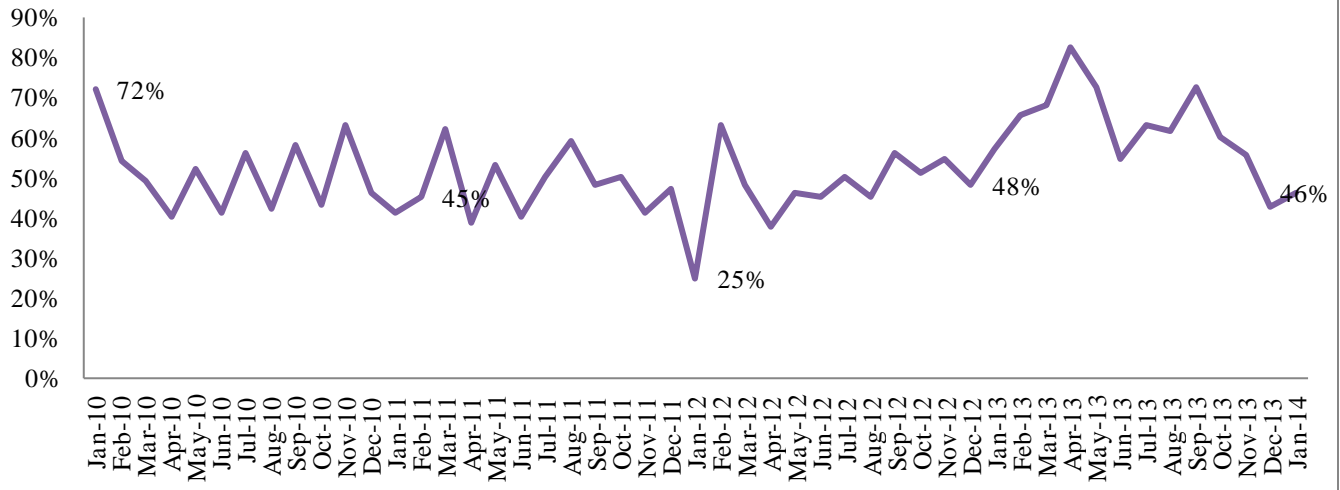
- Pending Placement Under 30 Days.** DJS has been working to drive down the pending placement population statewide and the measure that is being tracked strongly is the release of youth from detention into long term programs under 30 days. This data fluctuates from month to month and DJS attributes placement issues on youth with intensive needs and the lack of proper long term placements at DJS' disposal within the state. As indicated by the first chart below, overall placement releases under 30 days increased in January after remaining relatively stable in the 60 percent range.

DJS performed a snapshot look of the Metro Region today and they are at 70 percent. Eight of 11 kids are going out of state and some are pending placement into Residential Treatment Centers (RTC). \*





### Metro Region, Pending Placement < 30 Days



- Out-of-State (OOS) Population.** The average daily population for youth placed out-of-state fell below 100 in October 2013 for the first time since February 2010. DJS indicated that this rate fell due to additional screenings that are occurring for high needs youth as well as the fact that placements are less likely to dismiss youth at this time due to the aforementioned screening process. As indicated, the OOS population has remained below 100 over the last two reporting periods.

At the previous Stat, DJS indicated that Joseph Cleary, Chief of Staff of DJS, would be attending a Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators conference where there would be discussions in reference to out of state youth. The CoS reports that the conference went well. He reports that other states are having similar issues but Maryland may have the highest rate of delinquent youth being sent out of state.

### Committed Out-of-State ADP

